d thanks

chives

uality
gibility
he

e filmed
g on
impres-
. All
on the
pres-
printed

he
CON-
ND"),

at
to be
ed
oft to
as
the

L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

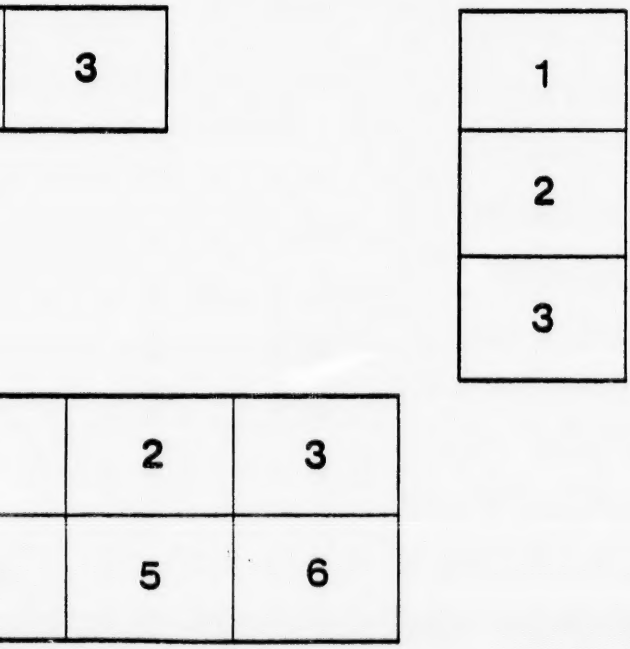
Presbyterian Church In Canada Archives
Toronto

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

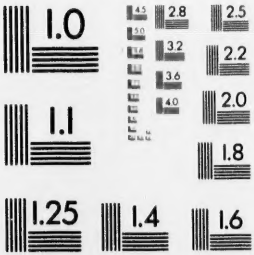
Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole → signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ▽ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.



MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART

(ANSI and ISO TEST CHART No. 2)



APPLIED IMAGE Inc
1653 East Main Street
Rochester, New York 14609 USA
(716) 482 - 0300 - Phone
(716) 288 - 5989 - Fax

History of the Presbyterian Church In Keene.

WE, your Committee, appointed at the last congregational meeting, held on the 27th day of March, 1896, for the purpose of compiling a history of the church from the time of its organization up to the present time, beg leave to submit the following :—

Source of Information.

In obtaining the information necessary for our report, we laboured under considerable difficulties owing to the want of records which should have been in possession of the officers of the church, but which could not be found. We are indebted to several members of the congregation for information received, but in an especial manner to Mr. Alexander Wood, without whose assistance it would have been almost impossible to furnish anything like a satisfactory report. We called on Mr. Wood and received information from him verbally, which, when compared with the records of the church (as far as recorded) we found correct, which reflects much credit on him for the deep interest he evidently must have taken in the welfare of the congregation from its organization.

Record of Union of Church and Ordination of Rev. F. Andrews

In one of the Presbyterian Church Records of the year 1861, preserved by the late Mr. Duncan McIntyre, and furnished to us by his daughter, Miss Isabella McIntyre, we found a list of all the Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, also of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, with the date of their

ordination, and the congregation over which each minister was placed, also the ruling elder of each congregation. In that list the Rev. Francis Andrews is recorded as having been ordained in the year 1851. The list of ministers is given in that record as that was the time at which the two sections of the church were united at Montreal under one Assembly, and under its present name, "The Presbyterian Church in Canada."

Church Organized.

From authentic information, we find that the Presbyterian Church in Keene was organized in the year 1833, when the Rev. Archibald Colquhoun commenced his ministrations in this place. He had charge of the congregation for a period of nine years, during which time he preached in the school house in the village, and resided about two miles west of Keene, in a house on the late Mr. Peter McFarlane's farm. The first board of trustees, or managers, of the congregation was composed of the following gentlemen, viz.: Messrs. Duncan Drummond, George Gillespie, Peter McFarlane, John McGregor, Duncan McIntyre and George Esson. These gentlemen entered into a bond guaranteeing to the minister a stipend of £125 per annum, £50 of which sum was obtained from the Colonial Fund of the Church of Scotland. The members and adherents during Mr. Colquhoun's time were probably a little over fifty in number. Great difficulty was experienced in raising the stipend promised. This difficulty, together with other reasons, led to Mr. Colquhoun's resignation in the year 1842. From this date up to the year 1845, or for a period of about three years, religious services were conducted by ministers of other congregations, viz.:—by the Rev. Mr. Roger, of the Presbyterian Church, Peterborough; the Rev. Mr. Gilmour, of the Baptist Church, Peterborough, and the Rev. Mr. Hayden, of the Independent Church, Cobourg.

Rev. Archibald Colquhoun's Ministrations.

First Board of Deacons.

Stipend, its Source.

Mr. Colquhoun's Resignation.

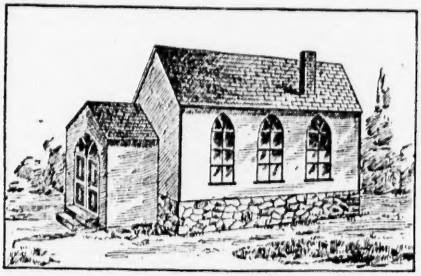
Ministers of other Congregations, from 1842 to 1845

Movement to Build Church.

In the year 1845 a movement was set on foot to provide suitable accommodation for the growing needs of the church. The result of this movement was a congregational meeting which

decided to build a church, and immediately set about the selection of a site for this purpose. The first site selected consisted of two acres situated between the east and west halves of lot number twelve, in the seventh concession of the township, but this site was afterwards abandoned, and two acres were purchased from the late Dr. Gilchrist for the sum of £50. On this site the manse now stands.

Site of First Church.



THE FIRST CHURCH BUILT IN KEENE.

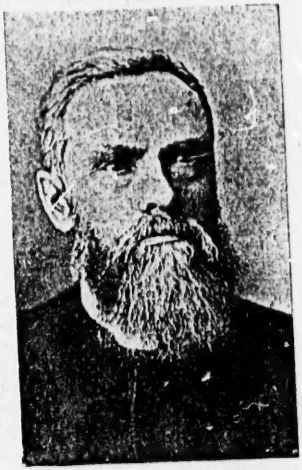
The church was built in the year 1846 at a cost of £300, £50 of which sum was contributed by the Honorable Isaac Buchanan, who gave a donation of £500 to be equally divided among the first ten churches erected (after the disruption) in connection with the Free Church of Canada. The building committee who had charge of the erection of the church, was composed of the following gentlemen, viz.—Messrs. Duncan Drummond, John McFarlane, Duncan McIntyre, Thomas Short, John Stark, Alexander Wood and John Miller. The building was at first seated with boards or planks resting on supports. These were gradually superceded by comfortable seats or pews, each member furnishing, at his own expense, his sitting accommodation. The church was formally opened for divine service by the Rev.

Church Built.

Building Committee of First Church.

Subscription List of First Church.

Mr. Roger in the fall of the year of its erection. Among the early records of the church we found in a good state of preservation, the first subscription list in aid of the building fund. We read over the names on that list with a great deal of pleasure as we found from its contents that a feeling of brotherly love must have been prevalent in the community, as all denominations, both Roman Catholic and Protestant, and all nationalities in the place, contributed according to their means in aid of the building fund.



REV. MR. WALLACE.

Rev. Mr. Wallace Called and Inducted.

In the same year in which the church was opened for service, a call was tendered to the Rev. Mr. Wallace, a young man and a graduate of Queen's College, Kingston.

Mr. Wallace accepted the call, was duly inducted as pastor,

by the Rev. John M. Roger, of Peterborough, Rev. Thos. Alexander, of Cobourg, and Rev. Dr. Reid, of Grafton, afterwards of Toronto, and ministered very acceptably to the congregation for a short time, but on account of ill health, he was obliged to resign his charge in the month of August of the succeeding year. Mr. Wallace preached in Keene only. His stipend was £106. In the minutes of the session, a resolution is recorded expressing their sorrow for the necessity of the resignation of Mr. Wallace; their esteem and love, and their opposition to his removal had he been spared with health.

Mr. Wallace's Ministrations.

At the time of the opening of the church the Elders were, Messrs. Duncan Drummond, Duncan McIntyre, Thomas Short and James Fife; and the Deacons, Messrs. Richard Short, John McFarlane, Alexander Wood, John Stark, James Sinclair, James Becket and Malcolm Campbell. Mr. Wood and Mr. Becket were afterwards elected Elders. The membership of the whole church as far as can be ascertained was at that time from 140 to 150. It may be interesting to note how the temporal affairs of the church were managed during its early history. At a meeting of the Deacon's Court held on the 10th day of November, 1846, the following resolution was passed: "Resolved, that firewood be provided by voluntary contribution, namely, from Mr. Thomas Short, 1 cord; Mr. Duncan Drummond, ¾ cord; Mr. John McFarlane, ¾ cord; Mr. Alex. Wood, ½ cord; Mr. Peter McFarlane, ½ cord; Mr. Malcolm Campbell, ½ cord; and that Mr. James Sinclair be authorized to confer with those in the village for the purpose of making the fires, cleaning the stoves and attending to the church for the season. The duties of sexton were performed in this way up to the year 1848, when Mr. Sinclair was employed at a salary of £1 10s. per annum, to attend to these duties. From this time up to the present, caretakers have been employed and paid for performing the duties of sexton. As late as 1852, the records still show, that wood was furnished for heating the church by voluntary contribution. The sexton

First Elders after Erection of Church.

Management of Temporal Affairs of Church.

First Sexton.

usually had to cut the wood in addition to his other duties.

t
bath School.

During the period of Mr. Wallace's ministrations the first Sabbath School was established in connection with the church. The school has been in existence continuously from that time up to the present. The first teachers were Messrs. Duncan Drummond, Thomas Short, Duncan McIntyre, Walter Renwick, Miss Gilchrist and Miss Annie Gilchrist.

bath School,
her's Corners

Mr. Drummond afterwards withdrew from the Keene School and organized a school at Mather's Corners, where, in addition to superintending the school, he furnished fuel, made the fires and attended to the other duties required.

ice by
dents from
to 1850.

From the month of August, 1847, that is from the time of Mr. Wallace's resignation, up to the year 1850, when the Rev. Mr. Andrews was called to the church, the services were conducted by students, among which may be mentioned the late Rev. Andrew Wilson, who had charge of a congregation in Kingston for a period of fifteen years subsequent to his services in Keene. The Rev Mr. Dixon also ministered for some time in Keene, but we have no record of his ministrations.

gregation
rary.

In the year 1848, a resolution appears in the minutes of the session, requesting each of the Deacons to do his endeavor in his locality to get as many as he can to join the Congregation Library. From this resolution we infer that a library was established in connection with the church about this date or at least a short time before it

INDUCTION OF REV. MR. ANDREWS.

Rev. F.
rews Called
Inducted.

In the year 1850, the congregation extended a call to the Rev. Francis Andrews, who accepted the call and was inducted in the year 1851 Members of the Presbytery who assisted at his induction, viz., Rev. Donald McLeod, of Cobourg, Rev. J. M. Roger, of Peterborough, Rev. W. McKenzie, of Baltimore, Rev. John Smith, of Grafton and Rev. Mr Douglas, of Centreville.

At the commencement of his ministrations his stipend was $500, but was afterwards raised to $700 and finally in the year 1879 to $800. Mr. Andrews is a graduate of Belfast and Edinburgh Colleges, in the former of which Rev. Dr. Cook was Principal and in the latter Rev. Dr. Chalmers. He was sent to Canada as a missionary by the Colonial Missionary Committee of the Presby-

REV. FRANCIS ANDREWS.

terian Church of Ireland, having been recommended for that work by the Rev. Dr. Cook. He preached for a short time at Grand River, Ontario and was then sent by the Rev. Dr. Burns to Keene, where he received a unanimous call and accepted as mentioned above and where he has labored faithfully, diligently and acceptably in the service of the Lord until the present time.

When Mr. Andrews commenced his labors in this place, his appointments were:—Keene, Cameron's School House, on the boundary between Otonabee and Asphodel, and Fife's School House, on the sixth concession of Otonabee. The last named appointment was shortly afterwards cancelled, but he continued to preach at Cameron's School House, till the church at Westwood was completed. At the commencement of his ministrations, we find recorded on the Communion Roll of the whole church, a total of 142 members, of this number twenty are still living, but only eleven of this number remain in connection with this congregation at the present time, viz., Messrs. Alexander Wood, John Wood, George Wood, James Wood, John Hope, Archibald Davidson, Robert Borland, Thomas Borland, Mrs. William Drummond, Mrs. John Hope and Mrs. David Henderson. At the first Communion Service held at Keene by the Rev. Mr. Andrews, there were only thirty-eight members who partook of the Lord's Supper.

Mr. Andrews First Appointments.

Membership.

In the early history of the congregation, before the building of the church, Communion Services were sometimes held in Mr. Short's back store.

The first record of a regular salary having been paid the Precentor, was in the year 1851, when Mr. Walter Renwick received a salary of £3 15s. per annum. Previous to this time a collection was taken up annually to recompense the Precentor for his services. The service of praise was conducted from that time up the introduction of the Organ in the month of May, 1890, by the following persons in the order named, viz., Messrs. Peter Anderson, Robert Graham, Thomas Lockhart, James Buchanan, William Renwick and John Gillespie. Salaries ranging from $15.00 up to $30.00. The last two named receiving each $30.00 per annum. Previous to the appointment of a regular precentor, the service of song was conducted by a choir of six or seven male voices, but no record of their names is given in the books of the church.

Precentor, his Salary.

Introduction of Organ.

Precentors.

Choir.

In the year 1851 the Session suggested the formation of a Female Association in connection with the congregation and a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and organize the society. We have no copy of the constitution nor yet have we much of the work of the association recorded, but have no doubt that they rendered valuable assistance to the congregation, as we find an entry in the treasurer's books in the year 1855, of £1 5s. contributed towards fixing the pulpit, and in 1856, of £20 7s. 6d. raised by the society in aid of the manse fund. Female Association.

In 1851 two suggestions were brought before the Session with regard to the selection of a site or the purchase of a building for a manse. One proposition was to purchase a site from Mr. Peter McFarlane, and another, a site or building at Woods' Corners. The first proposition seems to have been abandoned at once, but the second entertained, as the Session appointed Mr. Malcolm Campbell to examine a building at Woods' Corners, with a view of purchasing it for a manse, and to report to the Session Mr. Campbell reported the building to be worth £80, but when the report was submitted to the congregation, they did not approve of the purchase. Five years after this time, a manse was built in Keene at a cost of $800, exclusive of painting. The kitchen attached to the manse was built some years afterwards at a cost of $192 00 Site for Manse. Manse Built, 1856. Manse Kitchen Built.

In the year 1852 it was decided to hold a monthly meeting of the session and a prayer meeting in connection therewith; this course was followed up to the year 1854, when quarterly meetings were established instead. Monthly Meeting of Session. Quarterly Meeting of Session.

In the year 1854 a resolution was passed at a meeting of the session that in the absence of the Minister, the Elders conduct service at the usual hour by prayer and reading a sermon or a portion of the Scripture, and it was also agreed that the session meet regularly in the manse, every Sabbath morning, before divine service, for prayer. In the same year a resolution was Elders Conduct Service in Absence of Minister

Total Abstinence Association.

passed to establish a Total Abstinence Association in connection with the church and that public meetings be called to bring the subject under their notice and to obtain signatures to the pledge. We can find no record of any further action being taken in this matter.

Want of Harmony in Congregation.

In the years 1858 and 1859, a difficulty arose in the church which led to a want of harmony in the congregation for some time, but this matter was finally settled and peace and harmony again restored.

Financial Requirements, how met.

From the organization of the church until the 1st of February in the year 1864 the financial requirements of the Congregation seem to have been met by voluntary contributions but at this time it was resolved to raise the Ministers stipend and incidental expenses by pew rents and this plan has been followed continuously since that date.

As a mark of the generosity of our pastor, Mr. Andrews, it may be interesting to note that in the early years of his ministry the deacons, on one occasion at least, were unable to collect the full amount of stipend promised him and on their stating the circumstance to him he commended them for their efforts in the matter, stating, "You have done well and we will call it settled."

Election of Deacons and Elders, 1873.

In the year 1873, to fill vacancies in the Deacons' Court the following brethren were elected, viz.:—Messrs. David Moore, John Lang, Peter Comrie, D. D. Henderson, James McNeil and Peter Drummond; and on October 23rd, 1877, vacancies in the session were filled by the election of Messrs. Peter McNeil, Jas. M. Drummond, W. J. Miller, William Plunkett and John Miller, sr. Messrs. Peter McIntyre, Geo. Gillespie, Alexander Gillespie, Jas. Gallon sr, and John Miller sr., cupied the positions of Deacons, although we have no record in the minutes of their election, and Mr. John Miller sr., filled the office of Treasurer from the year 1857 up to 1878, that is for a period of twenty-one years; he then resigned and James McNeil (who was appointed

Secretary in 1868) was elected in his stead. The late James Stewart also filled the office of Elder for some years; and the late Thos. Davidson was a ruling elder for many years, though his election does not appear in the minutes.

Election again in 1874.

In the year 1894, on the 4th of March, officers were again elected to fill the vacancies, viz., Elders—Messrs. Joseph H. Taylor, Thos. Thompson and Hugh McFarlane; Deacons—Messrs. Robt. Wood and William Campbell.

Ladies Missionary Association, 1879.

In the year 1879 a Ladies' Missionary Association was organized in connection with the Church with the following officers, viz.—Mrs. Geo. Read, President; Mrs. Richard Hope, Vice-President; Mrs. Alexander Drummond, Treasurer; and Mrs. Moscrip, Secretary. Meetings were to be held quarterly. An executive committee of ladies were appointed to make collections in each section of the congregation. This organization has been in existence continuously up to the present time and has been very successful in furthering the schemes of the church.

THE PRESENT CHURCH.

Building the New Church.

The first meeting in connection with the building of the new church was held on the 10th day of October, 1881, at which a committee was appointed to ascertain the feeling of the congregation with regard to the matter. At a congregational meeting held on February 26th, 1883, it was resolved to build a new church and the sum of $1850 was immediately subscribed for that purpose by those present at the meeting. The third meeting was held on March 8th, 1883, when the matter of building a church was again discussed, and Messrs. John Lang and James McNeil were appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions for that purpose. The subscription committee reported favorably and at a meeting held on the 27th of June, 1883, a building committee was appointed composed of the following members, viz.—Mr. Richard Hope, Chairman; Mr. Jas. McNeil, Secretary; Mr. Geo. Read, Treasurer; and Messrs. W. J. Miller, Alex. Wood, John

Building Committee.

its Cost. Lang, and Wm. Drummond. The congregation purchased from Mr. Geo. Read, the site (consisting of half an acre) on which the church was afterwards built. The site cost $400. The contract for building the church was let to Mr. John Harper, of Norwood, for the sum of $9000. The cost of brick was $1450.50. The

THE PRESENT CHURCH.

hurch. total cost of the church, outside of voluntary labor, was about $11000; this includes plans and specifications and other charges of the architects The corner stone was laid on the 24th of May, 1884, under Masonic auspices, by Daniel Spry, Grand Master of

t
tone.

the Grand Lodge, A. F. and A. M. of Canada, who read the following scroll:—

IN THE NAME AND BY THE FAVOR OF ALMIGHTY GOD
ON THE 24TH DAY OF MAY, A.D. 1884, ERA OF MASONRY, 5884, AND
IN THE FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF
OUR MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN, VICTORIA,

By the Grace of God, Empress of India and Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and of the Dominion of Canada.

His Excellency the Most Honorable, the Marquis of Lansdowne, being Governor General of the Dominion of Canada; and

The Honorable John Beverly Robinson, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.

The Right Honorable Sir John Alexander Macdonald, Premier of Canada.

The Honorable Oliver Mowat, Premier of Ontario.

John Burnham, Esquire, Member of the House of Commons of the Dominion of Canada.

Thomas Blezard, Esquire, Member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

John Lang, Esquire, Reeve of the Township of Otonabee.

The Rev. John M. King, D.D., Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The Rev. Alexander Young, Moderator of the Synod of Toronto and Kingston.

The Rev. M. Jamieson, Moderator of the Presbytery of Peterborough.

The Rev. Francis Andrews, Minister Keene and Westwood.

Alexander Wood, John Miller, Wm. Plunkett, Peter McNeil, James M. Drummond, and William J. Miller, Elders.

Alexander Gillespie, David Moore, James McNeil, John Lang, David D. Henderson, Peter Comrie and Peter Drummond, Deacons.

Messrs. Richard Hope, Alexander Wood, George Read, William Drummond, John Lang, William J. Miller and James McNeil, Building Committee.

Messrs. Gordon & Helliwell, Architects: Messrs. Harper & Sons, Contractors.

The Grand Secretary then announced that in the glass bottle deposited in the cavity in the stone were placed the scroll, a copy of the Presbyterian Record, The Presbyterian, The Daily Mail, The Daily Globe, The Peterborough Review, The Peterborough Examiner, The Peterborough Times, The Norwood Register, The Canadian Craftsman, The Queen's College Journal, Canadian coins of the denominations of 50c., 25c., 10c., 5c., and 1c. pieces.

The Rev. Francis Andrews on behalf of the building committee then presented the Grand Master with a silver Trowel which bore the following inscription:—

"Presented to M. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, G.M. Grand Lodge, A.F. and A. M. of Canada by the Building Committee of the Presbyterian Church, Keene, Ontario, on laying the corner stone of the above Church, May 24th, 1884."

Dedicated.

The Church was dedicated for divine service by the Rev. Principal Cavin, of Knox College, on the 24th day of June, 1885.

Woman's Auxiliary Organized, 1883.

In the year 1883 a Woman's Auxiliary in connection with Zenana Missions was organized and some time afterwards a Mission Band, both of which have contributed regularly in aid of the Zenana Mission.

Y. P. S. C. E. Organized, 1892.

A Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor was organized in October, 1892, and since that time has assisted the church both materially and spiritually by their prayers, by their contributions to missions, in Sabbath School work, in beautifying the church with floral tributes and by visiting the sick, bringing them tokens of love to cheer them in their affliction. We also owe to their zeal and successful efforts, the sweet toned bell calling us every sabbath to worship our God in His Holy Sanctuary.

The Bell.

Conclusion.

In concluding these brief and imperfect records of the history of our church, it behooves us to carry our thoughts back to the period in our local history when the fertile and cultivated fields that surround us were, to a great extent, in a state of primeval forest in which its wild and ferocious denizens roamed at will. It was at such a time and under such circumstances that our forefathers undertook the erection of a place of worship at an expenditure, which at that time must have been a severe test of their faith and reliance on the good providence of God.

In reading obituary notices recorded from time to time during our history as a congregation, we have had feelings of sadness as tried and faithful officers of the church have been called from the stage of time to the realities of another world, but when we consider that through faith they are now inheriting the promises, and their example and influence is still exercising, and will continue to exercise a beneficial effect on the church, our sorrow was not the sorrow of those who have no hope. Those officers are gone, their voices are hushed in death but others are raised up to take their places. God buries his workmen but still carries on his work.

In conclusion, we desire to express our praise and gratitude to our Heavenly Father for all the way in which he has led us as a congregation, and for the many blessings both of a temporal and spiritual nature which we have enjoyed, and our earnest prayer is, that the great Head of the Church may continue to lead us and guide us in the ways of truth and righteousness, and when our labors as members of His Church on earth may have ended, may we each receive the commendation of the Master, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Signed by the members of the committee.

GEORGE READ,
JAMES McNEIL,
JAMES M DRUMMOND,
A. SHEARER.

KEENE, March 10th, 1897.

Off

RE

ALEX. WC
JAS. M. D
JOSEPH H

JOHN LAN
D. D. HEN
PETER DR

Office Bearers, 1898.

Pastor:

REV. FRANCIS ANDREWS.

Session:

ALEX. WOOD,
JAS. M. DRUMMOND,
JOSEPH H. TAYLOR,
W. J. MILLER,
THOMAS THOMPSON,
HUGH McFARLANE,

Deacons:

JOHN LANG,
D. D. HENDERSON,
PETER DRUMMOND,
PETER COMRIE,
JAMES McNEIL,
WILLIAM CAMPBELL,
ROBERT WOOD.

Sec.-Treasurer:

JAMES McNEIL.